

Dear Parishioners of Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Hello! My name is Fr. Aaron Nord. I am the new priest for Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. I am very excited to be here--more about that in a moment--and eager to meet everyone. If you have a moment, stop by after church today to say hello. Rather than have a reception in the parish hall or an open house at the rectory, I'm going to be at The Haven every Saturday in August from 6 pm till 8 pm having dinner. If there is an open seat at my table, feel free to join me. If the seats are full, stop by to chat. Since some of you have ideas, questions, or business to discuss, I've set aside some 9am-11am on Tuesdays and from 1pm to 2pm on Sundays to meet with parishioners. You can make an appointment through our wonderful pastoral associate Debbie or simply drop by and see if I am free.



Most of all, I am very excited to serve at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish because Jesus is with us. He is with us in the Eucharist each Sunday and in our tabernacle throughout the week. He heals us in Confession and he teaches us in his Word. There are so many people in our neighborhood we can help meet Jesus and believe in Him, and that possibility excites me, because when we help the lost and the little to find Jesus, they find eternal life. Also, I'm excited because Msgr. Billing told me Immaculate Heart of Mary parishioners really impressed him; I've certainly been impressed by the staff and volunteers whom I've met.

In conclusion, here are some Fr. Aaron Fun Facts. I grew up in St. Louis, but as a child, I loved the book "How to talk Minnesotan". Mom and dad gave one sister and four brothers--one of whom is also a brother priest--while also caring for 75 foster babies! I did seminary at KenrickGlennon but college at Truman State. In my 14 years of priesthood I've served in two parishes and I've had a long stint in Rome studying canon law. Today I still work as a canon lawyer for the Archdiocese, mostly doing work related to marriage. The board game I play most often is Terraforming Mars, and a good novel I read recently was "The Goblin Emperor" by Katherine Addison. History, business, and parish renewal interest me. My best personal prayer time usually comes when I'm in church reading a little of the bible, talking to God and thinking and then being quiet for a while. Please pray for me--I will be praying for you. See you around!

Yours in Jesus and Mary,

Fr. Aaron